

THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SHEPTON MALLET.ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.For the Year Ending 31st. December, 1940.

To The Chairman and Members of the Shepton Mallet R.D.C.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Upon the instructions received from the Minister of Health this Report will be an Interim one only, confined to essential and urgent matters affecting Public Health.

Vital Statistics.

		M.	F.	Total.
Live Births:	Legitimate	67	84	151
	Illegitimate	5	2	7
				<u>158</u>
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	2	1	3
Deaths ... ... ...		84	67	151
Deaths from Puerperal causes.	Nil.			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:				
	Legitimate	5	4	9
	Illegitimate		Nil.	
Deaths from Cancer 19. Measles and Whooping Cough.	Nil.			

There are few matters needing comment. The Incidence of infectious disease (excluding Scabies) has not been high considering the conditions brought about by the Evacuation Scheme, i.e., the tendency towards overcrowding and the movements of children and others to and from many parts of the Country.

EVACUATION.

A Sick Bay has been opened for the treatment of Scabies and other skin conditions. Enuretics are cared for at a Hostel, and minor injuries etc., are dealt with by the Local Medical Practitioner or at the local Red Cross Clinics where established. The Cranmore Maternity Home for Evacuated Expectant Mothers and the Westminster Nursery School at Doulting, together with other institutions mentioned, indicate the district's health facilities.

The number of evacuees in the district at the end of the year under review was 1,759 children 599 adults. Total 2,358.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. After a somewhat hesitant start the campaign is moving steadily toward the desired end.

Meat Inspection. A Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse has been established in the district, where meat is prepared for a fairly wide area. Routine inspection of carcasses is carried out.

In conclusion I may say that I see no cause for anxiety regarding health conditions generally.

I have the honour to be  
Your obedient servant

Medical Officer of Health.  
Shepton Mallet Rural District.

